

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Strategic Development Committee Minutes

March 20, 2009

Present: Everett Amaral, Allen Durand, Bob Cooper, Fred Ricci, Jane Nugent, Susan O'Donnell, and Kim Weiss. **Guests and Staff:** Mavis McGetrick, Jen Cornwell, Christine Grieco, Cheryl DaCosta, and Patrice Cavanaugh.

Absent: Paul Harden, Betty Pleacher, and Nancy Roderick.

With a quorum present, Vice-Chair Jane Nugent called the meeting to order at approximately 8:35 A.M. Jane asked the members to review the minutes of the January 16, 2009 meeting.

VOTE: Bob Cooper moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting as presented. Everett Amaral seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

ISDI Presentation

Cheryl DaCosta from Tech Collective provided the committee with an update of the Information Technology industry's progress in the ISDI grant. Cheryl mentioned that although there have been some obstacles with getting the grant start up, the industry has been able to make great progress in the briefly reviewed each of the Grant's 4

components, which are 1) Training & Development, 2) Establishing an Industry Based Presents at the One-Stop Centers, 3) Establishing “Industry Greenhouse” Activities for Students and Educators, 4) Implementing Career Awareness Strategies. Cheryl stated that the original Grant period was August 2008 through July 2009, with a possible 6-month extension.

Modification #5

Christine Grieco stated the modification is complete, but noted that the Unemployment Rate needs to update prior to signing. Christine then asked for the committee’s approval to have the Modification move forward for signature.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned to approve Modification #5 with revisions. Fred Ricci seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

PY09 One-Year Plan

Christine Grieco stated that the Draft Plan is complete and needs to be reviewed by the Board, as well as at a Public Hearing. Christine informed the committee that with SWIO’s permission, WPGRI was able to take the current Two Year Plan and extend it for another year. Christine reported that changes would be necessary as information on the stimulus package is received. Kim Weiss stated that the plan will need to include supportive services, priority services for veterans, and needs related payments prior to it being sent to SWIO.

VOTE: Bob Cooper motioned approve the PY09 One-Year Plan, with the three needed additions mentioned. Sue O'Donnell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Stimulus Update

Christine Grieco provided the committee with the latest figures the WPGRI will be receiving due to the stimulus package. She reported that currently there have been discussions with Providence/Cranston on the best ways to spend youth money. Chris informed the committee that the intention is to use most of the youth dollars on summer programs because in the fall any money spent will be subject to the WIA performance measures. Christine also stated that she and Paul Ouellette, along with representatives from Providence/Cranston, would be meeting with Sandra Powell to discuss the stimulus dollars.

CVS Update

Christine Grieco informed that CVS is scheduled to open a Pharmacy Call Center in December, and a meeting is schedule to discuss providing training for 200 Pharmacy Tech II that will staff the call center.

OJT Update

Christine Grieco informed the committee that we recently held a Customized Training Seminar that provided employers with information on the training programs available. Christine stated that she would like to see additional seminars provided to the Chambers of Commerce, and the HRM.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the committee.

VOTE: Allen Durand motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:20 A.M. Everett Amaral seconded. The motioned passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for April 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice Cavanaugh

Employment & Training Assistant